

The Challenge

Sierra Army Depot, Herlong, CA

August 2005

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Butler Assumes Command of Sierra

By Lori McDonald
Public Affairs Officer

It was a perfect day for a military ceremony. More than 200 distinguished guests, friends and family members gathered on the parade field the morning of July 7th, to watch Sierra Army Depot hold its 35th change of command ceremony, in which Colonel Paul Plemmons relinquished full command responsibility to Lieutenant Colonel Brian Butler.

After the invocation, 6 year old Adina Donovan and Beth Marcotte, children from Youth Services, presented both Mrs. Plemmons and Mrs. Butler with flowers in recognition for the support they have shown and will show during their husband's command at Sierra Army Depot.

The 59th Army Band Brass Quintet from Sacramento played ruffles and flourishes that signified the arrival of the official party consisting of Major General William M. Lenaers, Colonel Paul Plemmons and Lieutenant Colonel Brian Butler. As the party stood at attention, members of the Reno Silver State Junior ROTC brought colors forward.

Plemmons received the Legion of Merit Award from Major General Lenaers, which highlighted his outstanding leadership to a high performance organization that implemented improved systematic and innovative methods. Major General Lenaers also recognized Mrs. Plemmons with the Commander's Award for Public Service and the Keeper of the Flame Award.



Lt. Col. Butler, left receives the command flag from Maj. Gen. Lenaers signifying that responsibility and authority of the depot has transferred from the outgoing commander, Col. Plemmons to him.

The Nevada Air National Guard conducted a two-plane flyover during the ceremony. The flyover represented Colonel Plemmons' support and commitment to the Nevada Air National Guard during his command. From July 2002 until July 2005, the National Guard unit flew more than 1,900 landings, touch and gos, and air drops at Sierra Army Amedee Airfield.

Major General Lenaers began his remarks by thanking Colonel Plemmons for the tremendous job he accomplished during his command and by thanking Lieutenant Colonel Butler for accepting command of a great depot.

During his speech, Colonel Plemmons looked out among the crowd and thanked everyone for their support during his time he was stationed here. An emotional thank you went to his wife Nancy. Colonel Plemmons said "I could have been many things without Nancy, but successful was not one of them."

Lieutenant Colonel Butler told the group that he looked forward to this assignment and continuing the good work accomplished by Colonel Plemmons. He ended his remarks by telling the workforce "Let's get to work."

Colonel Paul Plemmons will travel to the east coast where he will report to his new duty assignment with the 20th Support Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Edgewood, Maryland.



The hot temperature was something members of the 59th Army Band Brass Quintet from Sacramento, CA were used to performing in. As soon as they stepped out of their vehicle, the band quickly set up to begin playing music prior to the ceremony. The depot was honored to have this group of individuals travel to Sierra and provide the traditional ceremonial music for the change of command. (Photo courtesy Lynn Goddard)



To show their continued rapport with the depot, two C-130 planes from the Nevada Air National Guard conducted a treetop flyover during the change of command. (Photo courtesy Lynn Goddard)

Commander's View

In my first article as your new depot commander, I would like to say thank you to everyone at SIAD who has extended my family and me such a warm welcome. This is a much different work environment than my wife, Wendy, and I are used to, but the great reception you've given us has left no doubt that this is going to be a wonderful command tour. A special thanks to each of you who helped or participated in the Change of Command ceremony. It was an absolutely first class performance of which you can all be proud.

In the short time I have been here you have already demonstrated an impressive commitment to professionalism and excellence. I know that I can count on each of you to do your part to the best of your ability. You've built a superb team here, and I'm proud to be a part of it.

An area that will be of high importance to me during my command is SAFETY. We sometimes have a tendency to just pay lip service to this topic, but in reality, it's something that we should always be thinking about and



Lieutenant Colonel Brian Butler doing. I know you recognize the importance of a safe work and community environment. You are all experts in your respective work areas, and I'm counting on you to continuously evaluate your shops and activities for hazards and develop processes to reduce or eliminate them. It may take a little extra time to complete a task or action in a safe manner, but it's well worth it. You're too valuable to me, the Army and SIAD for us to accept anything less.

Make SAFETY the top priority in your daily duties.

I would like to remind you that the Commander's Hotline (827-4249) is available at anytime, or you can see me personally by contacting my office for an appointment. My door is always open to any employee that wishes to speak with me. I will use this column, special memos when appropriate, and visits to your work sites to keep communication between us as open as possible.

Again, I look forward to getting to know each of you personally and continuing the great reputation you've made for yourselves here at SIAD. On behalf of myself, Wendy and our children, it's absolutely great to be here!



WATER SAFETY

Summer time is here and people are involved in several types of water activities just to keep themselves out of the hot scorching sun. Although water sports can be fun, they can also be very dangerous if basic rules are not followed. Tragedy can strike at lightning speed at any given moment. The most common reason for aquatic mishaps is either a lack of safety knowledge or taking water safety training for granted.

Drowning is a major concern because it is the 2nd leading cause of accidental deaths in the United States. Drowning can be prevented by personal floatation devices. Historically many "boaters" who know how to swim end up drowning because they refuse to wear lifejackets. This is usually due to slips and falls rendering them unconscious while moving around in a boat or while river fishing. Other incidents of drowning are associated with small boats that have overturned because conditions were too rough for the boat to handle. Had those individuals on board worn lifejackets they would have survived. These tragedies were avoidable if some common sense had been applied. The lesson here is always wear a life jacket whenever you are in or near the water; even if you can swim. Please don't become another statistic.

So, whether you're boating, water skiing, swimming in the pool, or at the beach, keeping out of trouble means knowing your abilities, your environment, and using your head.

Here are some tips that will make your summer more safe, fun, and help you sail smoothly through those hot summer days!

- If going boating make sure you know what safety equipment is carried, where it is stored, and how it works.

- Wear your lifejackets. If children are onboard, make sure lifejackets fit properly and are worn at all times in the boat.

- If going swimming always swim near a lifeguard and never swim alone.

- Be sure to follow directions given to you by the lifeguard.

- Always follow the rules that are posted at the swimming pool, beach, lake or in a boat. If you are in trouble,

See Page 3, WATER

The Union's Position: AFGE, Local 1808

AFGE and Four Other DoD Unions to File Suit Challenging New Personnel System Proposed Regulations Violate the Law, Evade Congressional Oversight, Say Union Presidents

DEFENSE WORKERS' UNIONS TO SUE PENTAGON

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AFGE Press Release, February 2005) – The Department of Defense (DoD) is proposing a new set of regulations that could have grave implications for safety of America's fighting men and women, and for safeguarding the public coffers. In its new National Security Personnel System (NSPS), also known as the Rumsfeld plan, the Department of Defense has significantly narrowed employees' rights to collective bargaining and all but eliminated the due process rights that enable employees to speak with confidence when they see wrongdoing or mismanagement.



James Swistowicz, President

"To call this a 'National Security' system is a joke," said AFGE National President **John Gage**. "If anything, the Rumsfeld plan makes the nation less secure."

The American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), together with the Association of Civilian Technicians (ACT), the Laborers International Union, the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) and the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) will file,

as soon as the new personnel regulations are published, a law suit in federal court that challenges the new work rules on a statutory basis.

In defiance of the United States Congress, the Defense Department refused to consult with the unions that represent the department's employees, as called for in the defense authorization legislation that authorized the creation of the new personnel system, and went ahead in issuing its proposed rule changes in violation of section 9902(m) of the Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2004.

"You would think that if anybody had an obligation to follow the law, it would be the Department of Defense," Gage continued. "Instead of working with the long-standing representatives of the military's loyal civilian employees, the Pentagon apparently would rather duke this out in federal court."

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The Challenge

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Lt. Col. Brian Butler
Lori McDonald
Lynn Goddard

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Lean Update: Rapid Improvement Event Preparation and Sustainment

By Allen Jones
Lean Office

A Rapid Improvement Event is used to implement change. Once problems have been identified, limitations have been established, and boundaries are determined (via a Value Stream Analysis), the individual part of a process is closely examined. From this a plan is developed, implemented and then closely monitored to determine effectiveness.

Success of the event itself is often determined by the preparation. Team preparation should begin 6 weeks prior to the event (or if possible, earlier, based on the submitted schedule). Personnel need to be selected and notified as early as possible of their assignment to the event (this allows for review of leave, TDY etc.).

Once assignments are confirmed, the Lean Core Team needs to be notified so that affected personnel can be issued learning materials, for training to

prepare them for the event itself, and so that team meetings can be scheduled.

Objectives, targets, measurements, regulatory requirements and boundaries need to be reviewed and defined to ensure they are clearly understood prior to the event. Cross organizational contacts may need to be established for advice, technical assistance, understanding of their part in a value stream or help in making the changes themselves.

Historical data needs to be gathered to establish a baseline, and both a demand and cycle/take time needs to be determined. This can be gathered via the use of a properly maintained Production Control Board or a production schedule.

A very successful event will still be wasted without sustainment and follow-up. Carefully laid plans and good ideas are worth nothing unless they are implemented, monitored and sustained.



Photo by Lynn Goddard

After receiving ISO certification, Maj. Gen. Lenaers, far right, presented a plaque to Col. Plemmons that now hangs in the entryway of the Lowry Building, P-150. Standing with Col. Plemmons and Maj. Lenaers are Claude Lips, far left and Vince Sabatino, all whom are very pleased with the accomplishment.

The Goose has Landed



Meet BOSCO! This rescued goose was found washed up on a river's shore due to spring run off. He has been adopted by John Garland from the Environmental Office and is turning out to be a very well trained family pet. Thanks John for giving him a good home! (Photo submitted)

Water:

(Continued from Page 2)
don't be embarrassed to call or wave for help.

·Remember alcohol and water don't mix. Please don't drink and go swimming.

·Supervise children closely, even when lifeguards are present.

·Although they are great tools, don't rely on flotation devices, such as rafts. Chances are, you may lose them in the water.

·Don't dive into unfamiliar waters, protect your head, neck, and spine. Make sure you go in feet first, the first time.

Don't forget the sun screen!



Fire is FAST!



There is little time!

In less than 30 seconds a small flame can get completely out of control and turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house. In minutes, a house can be engulfed in flames. Most fires occur in the home when people are asleep. If you wake up to a fire, you won't have time to grab valuables because fire spreads too quickly and the smoke is too thick. **There is only time to escape!**



Changes in Flexible Spending Account

FSAFEDS is pleased to announce several enhancements that promise to benefit all participants - - that means you!

1) Grace period implemented for incurring eligible expenses!

You now have until March 15 of the following year to incur eligible expenses for the current Plan Year. While this does not eliminate the use-it-or-lose-it rule completely, you now have a great advantage to avoid forfeiting unused funds.

If you have a balance remaining in your Health and/or Dependent Care FSA account as of December 31, you can use those funds for eligible expenses incurred from January 1 through March 15 of the following year. This is effective immediately, so for the 2005 Plan Year, you have until March 15, 2006 to incur eligible expenses. And, if your 2005 balance is not sufficient to reimburse you in full for expenses incurred through March 15, 2006, the unpaid balance will be paid out of your 2006 account if you re-enrolled during Open Season. If you do not re-enroll, you

cannot be reimbursed in full for those expenses.

2) Deadline extended for submitting eligible expenses to FSAFEDS!

The deadline for submitting claims for eligible expenses has been pushed back to accommodate the grace period change. You now have until May 31 following the end of the Plan Year to submit claims for eligible expenses you incurred through March 15.

3) Health Care FSA maximum increased for 2006!

The Health Care FSA maximum contribution for 2006 will be \$5,000 - - that's a \$1,000 increase in the pre-tax amount. This change is effective for the 2006 Plan Year and does not apply to your current 2005 account. Remember, to take advantage of this new maximum, you must re-enroll for the 2006 Plan Year.

This is an exciting time! The grace period coupled with the extended filing deadline and increased Health Care FSA maximum makes the FSAFEDS program more valuable than ever.



Pictured above (left to right), Col. Paul Plemmons, outgoing commander, Maj. Gen. William Lenaers, host, and Lt. Col. Brian Butler, incoming commander, stand ready to enter the parade field prior to the commencement of the change of command ceremony.

Pictured below, students with the Reno Silver State Junior ROTC marched in unison and presented the colors under the guidance of TACOM LCMC Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Crandell prior to the arrival of the official party to signify the start of the change of command ceremony.



3 Change of



Brian D
Lieutenant

th Command



Butler Colonel



Wendy Butler receives flowers from six-year old Adina Donovan signifying the warm relationship that exists on depot and that will grow during her husband's command. Mrs. Butler in return hands a carnation back to Adina thanking her for the warm welcome.

Outgoing commander, Col. Paul Plemmons receives the Legion of Merit Award from Maj. Gen. Lenaers for his outstanding leadership to a high performance organization during his time in command. Nancy Plemmons proudly stood next to her husband during the presentation.



It Just Takes Determination to Succeed

By Kristena Quezada
Federal Women's Program

In recognition of August being Women's Equality Month, let us celebrate all the hard working women here at Sierra Army Depot. There are so many women at Sierra Army Depot that have worked hard in their movement upward toward better paying jobs, that it would be impossible to write on each one. I have picked a few individuals that have gotten my attention.

I would first like to talk about Lori McDonald. She started in Germany in 1980 as a GS-1 Safety clerk, and then after a two-year break in service re-entered government service in 1984 as a GS-4 Secretary for Ammunition Division with a promotion in 1986-1992 as a GS-06, Secretary for the Director of Special Weapons. Still moving upward she gets a GS-07 as a Security Assistant in the Counterintelligence Office. Just when she thought she was going for a higher grade, a RIF comes along in 1995 and is downgraded to a GS-06, Secretary for the Director of Operational Project Stocks. In 1997 due to the vacancy of a director's sec-

retary in the Director of Public Works, management reassigns her, still as a GS-06.

One year later, Lori is given an opportunity to try something new (move up). So in 1998, she takes a new job as Administration Assistant for the BRAC Office as a GS-07. Then to her surprise another RIF comes along in 2001 and pushes her back to a GS-06. She doesn't give up hope and keeps working hard, then takes a Temp promote back in the BRAC office as a GS-09 a year later. In 2004 she gets accepted for her current position as a GS-09/11 in Public Affairs Office.

Now, let's talk about another individual that has worked her way up in the government.

Julie Mason started her career with the government in 1972 right out of college as a Non-Appropriated Fund (NAF)-5 Program Director. Taking a short break in the government world, Julie went to graduate school from 1976-1979. During this time she was compelled to do community service for her home town. Julie traveled to Germany in 1979 where she was hired as

a Program Director, then shortly thereafter was promoted to Director of the recreational center. In 1982, within the same organization, she became the activity coordinator, and in 1984 moving on to work at staff level with administrative duties.

In 1990 Julie moved to the Netherlands to work as CRD Chief where she coordinated activities for Germany, Netherlands, England, and Luxembourg. In 2001-2003 Julie took over the duties as supervisor for Financial Division, Marketing, Bowling Center, and Youth Services. To keep working upward in her career, in 2003 she accepts a job as S-1 community support for ADCO, MWR, and Training here at Sierra Army Depot.

As you can see we have two completely different Nationalities and cultures. The one common interest in these two ladies is their determination to succeed. This is for all women to realize, no matter where you are and where you want to go; it is possible with hard work, determination and an education. Never give up hope that you will be where you want to be one day!

Women's Equality Day - 19th Amendment

At the behest of Rep. Bella Abzug (D-NY), in 1971 the U.S. Congress designated August 26 as "Women's Equality Day."

The date was selected to commemorate the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women the right to vote. This was the culmination of a massive, peaceful civil rights movement by women that had its formal beginnings in 1848 at the world's first women's rights convention, in Seneca Falls, New York.

The observance of Women's Equality Day not only commemorates the passage of the 19th Amendment, but also calls attention to the women's continuing efforts toward full equality. Workplaces, libraries, organizations, and public facilities now participate with Women's Equality Day programs, displays, video showings, or other activities.



UNION:

(Continued from page 2)

The proposed regulations for DoD personnel revoke most due process rights (rendering whistleblower protections moot), allow supervisors to punish employees in their paychecks, create a so-called "pay-for-performance" system that pits employees against each other for pay increases, and end all meaningful collective bargaining.

In the case of a reduction in force (RIF), a one-year employee with an "outstanding" rating would be retained over a 20-year employee with an "excellent" rating. When disciplinary actions are appealed to either the Merit systems Protection Board or an arbitrator, neither would be able to substitute a lesser penalty unless the penalty was "wholly unjustifiable," an impossible standard to overcome. For some alleged offenses, even the manager proposing the discipline would not be able to propose anything short of removal.

"As with similar regulations handed down last week for its employees by the Department of Homeland Security, these new work rules ultimately short-change the American taxpayer," added

AFGE General Counsel **Mark Roth**. "In the Pentagon and at military installations across the country, the fox will now have ultimate watch over the chicken coop. With managers, under the new system, having new ways to retaliate against employees who challenge management decisions, what will become of employees who blow the whistle on pork-loaded military contracts, or who speak on behalf of soldiers in need of equipment?"

"Every day, we hear of more punitive measures taken against government employees more loyal to the American people than to the political appointees who lead their agencies," Roth continued. "The narrowed scope of bargaining in the new regulations allows management to implement transfers and shift changes with impunity. Recent reports cite a lack of accountability in the upper reaches of the Pentagon. These new rules would only intensify that problem."

Union Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at building 58. The meetings start at 5: 15 p.m. Union Office Phone is 5375.

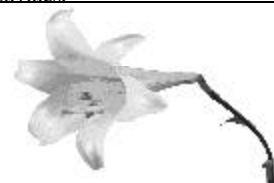


Photo By Lynn Goddard
Preston Siple, born in West Virginia, joined the US Army in 1970. After 30 years of continually moving around, Siple retired from the military. He joined the staff at SIAD in March 2003 as the Physical Security Specialist. He is currently assigned as the Operations Officer for the Storage & Distribution Division within Mission Operations. In recognition for 30 years of federal service, Col. Plemmons presented Mr. Siple with a certificate and pin.

Youth Services Monthly Update: CYS Skies Unlimited Programs

By Lanaya Chapman

Youth Services

Basic Cooking and Nutrition Class

Learn how to prepare yummy food while learning the basics of cooking and nutrition. You will learn how to cook breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The instructor for the Basic Cooking and Nutrition Class is Barbara Fritch. She has 40 years of cooking experience and is certified in Baking and Cake Decorating. This class will be offered at CYS from July 25th through August 19th, on Monday's and Fridays from 4pm-5:30pm. The class is offered to Middle

School and Teen students. Please contact Marsha Olsen or Lanaya Chapman at 827-4696 to register for the class and to secure you a space because they are limited.

Rock Climbing Class

The CYS Rock Climbing Class will be offered again this fall. Last fall we had a wonderful and exciting class. The Rock Climbing Class will be held at RockSport Indoor Climbing Center in Reno Nevada. RockSport is providing a qualified staff member to give instruction in the basics of safe climbing practices for one hour and then there will be a half hour of recreational climbing. The class is scheduled to start in September 2005. CYS will be providing transportation to every session. If you are interested in registering your child please contact Marsha Olsen or Lanaya Chapman at 827-4696. Come join in on the fun!!

Martial Arts Class

The CYS Aikido Class started this year in February 2005 and is still going strong. The class will continue through the rest of this year to December 2005.



Mr. Stan Gardner demonstrates to the class, some of the proper techniques used in Aikido. There is still openings in the class if you wish to register your child. Come out and take a bow during Aikido!

If you are interested in signing up your child, we are offering two classes, a beginner's class and intermediate class. The beginner's class is 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m. and the intermediate class is 6:00

p.m. to 7 p.m. If you are interested in registering your child or would like additional information, please contact Marsha Olsen or Lanaya Chapman at 827-4696.



HELEN BROWN - MICHELE BUSSELL - LINDA CADY - JABARI CHAPMAN - RICHARD CHASE - NANCY CHILD - JOEL CHILDERS - WILLIAM COFFENBERRY - MARY-KATHERINE COSTELLO - JAMES COWAN - GERRI CROGHAN - MICHAEL DAHL - ELINDA DAVIS - CAROLYN DAVIS - HERNANDEZ - GARY DAVISON - NORMAN DEMONTIGNY - NICHOLAS DOLPHAY - LARRY DRAPER - VIRGINIA ECKKROAT - KENNETH FANNING - YONG FENLON - STANLEY GRAHAM - KIMBERLY GREENWOOD - NONNIE GRENTZER - DIANA HAMILTON - THOMAS HENEGHAN - KENNETH HOLMES - DAVID INGERSON - ROSEMARIE JONES - STEVEN JONES - DOROTHY JUNEAU - LUCIE KECK - CHARLES KNOCH - LAWRENCE LAUGHLIN - MANUEL LESLIE - CLAUDE LIPS - CHESTER LONG - CLIFFORD LOUIE - SOON MADSEN - JAMES MARCOTTE - LAWRENCE MOOR - JOSEPH MUSULIN - PUANANI NACION - DARIN NEELY - KYLE OLSEN - KEVIN PASLEY - DAVID PETERSON - KEVIN ROBINSON - MILADA RODE - BOBBY ROOT - LEE SCHROEDER - JEREMIAH SEVERS - GENEVIEVE SHOE-MAKER - JOHN SOARS - CATHERINE TRAINER - ROBERT WESCH - CATHRYN WEST

MWR Services

Skedaddle Inn Meeting Center

The Skedaddle Inn Meeting Center/Lounge is now open Monday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Thursdays until the last customer leaves. It is also equipped to cater large or small events.

Call the manager at 827-4360 or email: skedaddle.inn@sierra.army.mil. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sierra Lodge/Guest House

Call the depot lodging manager, 827-4544, or email: skedaddle.inn@sierra.army.mil for information. Room rates from \$50.00 - \$60.00 per person.

Sierra Bowling Center and Snack Bar

Open Monday through Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Call 827-4442 for information. Check out the Lunch Specials that are advertised Monday through Thursday. Delivery available on all orders received before 10:30 a.m. Contact the Snack Bar to book your birthday packages and holiday parties early.

Physical Fitness Center

Open Monday through Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Open Friday, Saturday, Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There is no charge for general use for military and depot personnel. For other authorized patrons, there is a \$2.00 daily charge with special monthly rates available. Regular membership is \$20.00, premier membership is \$40.00. A tanning bed is also available at a rate of \$6.00 per tan or a monthly rate of \$35.00. Use of the Racquetball Courts is only \$3.00 per hour.

Now available - Prepaid orders for custom hats, jackets, and shirts with depot logos.

ITR is available at the Physical Fitness Center. For more information call 827-4655 or email ITR@sierra.army.mil or ok.fem@sierra.army.mil.

Outdoor and Equipment Rental

New party rental items are now available along with new ATVs. A safety class is required to rent ATVs and Boats. Also don't forget if you have not already taken the State of California test for water craft, now is a

great time to get it done - Warm weather is just around the corner. Books and test are available at the gym during regular business hours - THIS IS A NEW REQUIREMENT TO RENT WATER CRAFT THIS SUMMER. For information call Chris Long at (530) 827-4354 or send an email to Christopher.Long@sierra.army.mil.

Laundromat

Open daily, 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in building 142. Cost for wash, \$1.25 and \$.50 cents with a longer drying cycle. Please call 827-4655 for additional information.

Recycling Center

Open Monday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Call 827-4504 or email vending@sierra.army.mil to schedule a pick up or service.

MWR Office

The Administrative Assistant can be reached at (530) 827-4497, Monday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., or send an email to ashton.wilson@sierra.army.mil. Business Office is (530) 827-4178 or (530) 827-4609.

Building T-7 Demolished

By **Larry Duncan**
Engineering Technician

Not as memorable as Building T-84, the Old Clock Building, where thousands of workers punched in and out each day; not as unique as Building 79, former stables of the mounted police, where an occasional errant straw will work its way from the ceiling; Building T-7, recently demolished, was a place where thousands of personnel were sworn into government service.

Building T-7's latest and final mission was the home of Outdoor Recreation. During that period, the structure fell on hard times, not being maintained to the same level as other Buildings. Constructed during World War II, it fell into such disrepair that it was no longer economically feasible to maintain the building. In fact it fell into such disrepair that it became a health and safety issue. As a result, higher headquarters concurred with the recommendation of Carol Gordon, Real Property Officer, to demolish the building.

After Outdoor Recreation relocated to Building 142, demolition started in 2002 with the removal of hazardous waste, in this case, friable asbestos. This phase was contracted out to a firm out of Sacramento, CA. The asbestos in question was the lagging on the heater/boiler piping and in the ventilation ducting.

Pipe lagging, regardless of condition, is always considered friable, or to put it in lay terms: able to crumble, pulverize or otherwise breakdown the material between the thumb and forefinger. Therefore the workers wore respirators, Tyvek suits, constructed a negative air enclosure, and set perimeter air monitors to comply with regulations and keep fugitive Asbestos fibers in the building and not released to the atmosphere.

The second phase of the demolition effort was the removal of non-friable asbestos and lead-based paint contamination. Lead based paint had been found in the trim paint in sampling conducted in April 2004 and was removed intact in May of 2005, wrapped in 6 mil plastic sheet (visquine) and disposed of in our landfill.

Non-friable asbestos containing material was found to exist in the cementitious siding. The material is not considered a health hazard in its intact state, it only becomes a hazard if it is drilled, abraded, saw cut, or somehow made friable by any other means.

Fortunately for our Asbestos Workers the process they were going

to use to remove the shingles didn't release a significant amount of fibers so they were not required to use respirators, Tyvek, etc. Nonetheless, some of the workers donned Tyvek overalls and respirators and went to work, and just in case there was some asbestos material either overlooked or hidden in some obscure part of the structure, we set up perimeter monitors to be on the safe side. The weekend of 6-7 May 2005 the shingles and trim came down, the monitoring samples came back from the lab and the results were well within acceptable standards.

With the interior friable asbestos and exterior lead based paint and transite shingles removed, the main structure was now free to be demolished in a more expeditious manner, so on the weekend of 13 and 14 of May, Roads and Grounds crews brought in their front loaders, back hoes, dump trucks and all the stuff that will move a lot of material in short order and went to work demolishing Building T-7. They started at 6:30 in the morning and by 9:15 that same morning Building T-7 was no more.

Once again to be on the safe side, we set up perimeter air monitoring to document any releases we may have sent into the atmosphere and the results, not surprisingly, came back as an insignificant release. The fun was now over and it was time for the real work; removing debris, filling and leveling the grounds, prepping the soil for lawn, re-locating fence, installing sprinklers, all



Melissa Boatright assists Larry Brown in wetting down fugitive dust while a front loader on the other side of T-7 and a caterpillar on the right bring the building down in just a matter of hours. (Photo submitted by DPW)

seemingly insignificant tasks but vitally important to the finished product.

Building T-7 may be gone and along with it a bit of Sierra Army Depot history, but it was an eyesore, health and safety hazard and served no purpose to anyone, so it was time to go. Now a nice green lawn will be where T-7 once stood and the trees in the area will now get much needed water. The folks at Public Works accomplished a monu-

mental task in the demolition, so the next time you see one of these individuals, let them know what a great job they did.

All results from sampling can be viewed on the intranet at DPW2, click the link "Asbestos Survey." All Air Monitoring results will be added to the survey at a later date, in the meantime, they can be viewed at Public Works, please call Larry Duncan at 827-4165 to make arrangements to view.



The crew who made it happen. Pictured back row left to right: Gary Davidson, Joe McKee, Steve Newton, Ralph Schroepfer and Gary Chandler. Front row left to right: Melissa Boatright, Cameron Maynor, Hugh Blosser, Mike Winters and Larry Brown.

